

# ISU *anthropology news*

Keeping in touch with the Alumni, Students, Friends and Faculty of  
the Department of Anthropology of Iowa State University

Fall 2005

## Simulated dig

Everything about the Big Bluff site is fabricated.

Cultural and historical “artifacts” are placed at the site, buried in pre-determined locations. The site itself is a horse pasture just north of the main ISU campus.

But just because the site is fabricated doesn’t mean that the 30 anthropology students from Anthropology 308 who spent most of two recent weekends at the location didn’t find this a valuable experience.

“This type of excavation site allows the students to explore more archaeological techniques and methods than we would be able to do at a local site,” said Nancy Coinman, associate professor. “We can artificially construct the site in order to teach a greater diversity of concepts and techniques than any local site could provide.”



For several years, the department took its Anthropology 308 students to a prehistoric and historic site near Boone or to the 4-H Camp. But there were limitations in the field experiences that students could have at the real sites.

“Archaeology is perceived by most students as an adventure in discovery,” Coinman said. “This (class) is their first experience out in the field and they want to have the opportunity to find something.”

“The idea with an artificial site is to let them have some success while making it as realistic as possible.”

There are also ethical issues to consider in making the switch to an artificial site.

“Because North America’s archaeological record in general is finite and the cultural resources seriously impacted in most areas of the continent, there are ethical concerns about training students on limited cultural resources,” Coinman said. “There are a lot of



Department of Anthropology has established an on-campus excavation site for students in Anthropology 308. S

things we have to teach our students and we can do that at the artificial site without impacting our finite cultural resources.”

Five excavation units were prepared by Coinman, graduate students and student volunteers in early August. Cultural “artifacts” were placed up to 40 centimeters deep in the ground, the topsoil was placed back, and grass allowed to grow before the field exercises were held.

No real artifacts from any previously excavated archaeological site were used at the artificial site. The items reflected either recent historical periods or simulated prehistoric artifacts of stone tools and animal bones.

Additional prehistoric “artifacts” were generated during the course’s flint-knapping section and were appropriately marked with a red dot symbolizing an artificial artifact. These were used to “seed” the surface and were located and mapped by the students.

Just like a regular archeological site, students excavated 2x2m units, digging in 10-centimeter levels. Students also developed site maps, completed auger tests and investigated geological site formation processes at the Big Bluff site.

Afterwards the students will analyze the “artifacts” excavated from the site in their weekly two-hour labs.

“We’re attempting to develop a coherent, complete package,” Coinman said. “There is a lot for students to learn. In two full days they carry out realistic surface sampling strategies and subsurface excavations. It’s exactly what we teach at a real archaeological site.”

## from the chair

The Department of Anthropology began this fall semester with the addition of three new lecturers on our faculty - each of whom are providing new and exciting expertise to our program. They are fulfilling the teaching obligations of Dr. Karen Kessel, who resigned to pursue a career in the private sector, and Dr. Balmurli Natrajan, who accepted a position at William Patterson University in New Jersey. We wish them the best in their future professional careers.

Let me introduce our new faculty to you. Dr. Stephanie Aleman (University of Wisconsin-Madison) conducted her dissertation fieldwork in southern Guyana and is specialized in native capacity in crisis management. Dr. Sam Pack (Temple University) did his fieldwork among the Navajo Indians and concentrates on issues related to mass media presentation of the Native Americans. Dr. Maximillian Viatori (University of California, Davis) was involved in indigenous language preservation and reconstruction efforts in Ecuador, South America.

Another major development in the department's history is the nomination of Dr. Keith Brown (Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh) as the department's first outstanding alumni. Dr. Brown graduated from ISU in 1955 with the baccalaureate degree in sociology, and continued on to University of Chicago where he completed his doctorate in Anthropology (1964). From there on he began a remarkable career that included the Carnegie-Mellon Research Fellow, the Director of Asian Studies Center (1982-94), UCIS Research Professor, and the Chairman of the Department of Anthropology (1973-76) at University of Pittsburgh. As one of the leading authorities in Japan Studies in the U.S., Dr. Brown has published major books and articles on changing Japanese society and has received many awards and citations from major academic organizations and governmental agencies in both the U.S. and Japan, including



Dr. Keith Brown

the Order of the Sacred Treasure from the Japanese government. The Department is greatly honored to have the opportunity to claim Dr. Brown as our first distinguished alumni.

Dr. Brown will be honored during Iowa State's Homecoming activities on Friday, Oct. 21, along with other outstanding alumni from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Brown will present a lecture on his work, "The Emperor as an Ethnic and Ancestral Symbol in Contemporary Japan: Nationalism, Ethnicity and the Changing Ideal Japanese," on Friday, Oct. 21, at 4 p.m. in 309 Curtiss Hall.

I also hope you will take some time to look at the department's new web site at

[www.anthr.iastate.edu](http://www.anthr.iastate.edu).

Additional information is available and please direct your comments about the web site to our webmaster at [dgieseke@iastate.edu](mailto:dgieseke@iastate.edu).

As for my personal career path, I have recently received an offer from the Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica, in Taiwan, that is too good to pass. This is a research-only institution directly under the President's Office. With sufficient research funding and staff support, this will be an ideal position before retirement. After 31 years of teaching at ISU, it appears to be the right time for me to take retirement and to take on a new challenge. I hope our alumni will continually support our programs and our community in the foreseeable future.

*Shu-min Huang*  
Chair



## ISU Anthropology News

Shu-min Huang, chair

Design: Dave Gieseke

The ISU Anthropology News is published once a year (fall) for the students, alumni, friends, and faculty of the Department of Anthropology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Iowa State University.

Please address all correspondence to the editor:  
[lhaglund@iastate.edu](mailto:lhaglund@iastate.edu)

FAX: 515-294-1708

Mailing Address:

ISU Anthropology News

Iowa State University

Department of Anthropology

324 Curtiss Hall

Ames, IA 50011-1050

[www.anthr.iastate.edu](http://www.anthr.iastate.edu)

## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries can be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 3680 Beardshear Hall, (515) 294-7612.

# faculty activities

**Stephanie W. Alemán** (lecturer) comes to ISU after completing her PhD. At the University of Wisconsin- Madison in the spring of 2005. She has degrees in both Anthropology and Botany, and combined



these to form an additional minor in Ethnobotany. Her field research is among the Waiwai Amerindians of southern Guyana and northern Brazil, with a larger specialization in Amazonia and Amazonian Indians more generally. In terms of area interests, she also has done research among the coastal Guyanese and other areas of the Caribbean. Her additional areas of interest and research include; Indigenous Identities, Women's Lives, Landscape and Identity, Theories of Nature, Interethnic Communities, Guyanese History and Cultures, Amerindian Policies in the Guianas, Travel Literature in the Guianas, History of Ethnology in Lowland South America and the Caribbean, including the construction of gender, Botany and Ethnobotany of the Neotropics, the History of Botanical Science and the relationship between Botany and Colonialism.

Her ongoing research among the Waiwai has resulted in three book projects: one as an edited volume with Neil L. Whitehead regarding the imagined space of "Guayana", or the present day countries of Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana; the next as a comparative study of cultural responses to natural disasters, using the large scale catastrophic flooding of 2000 and 2004 among the Waiwai and along the Guyanese coast as a way of addressing cross-cultural variation in the relationships groups form with their environments as well as how different groups respond culturally and socially to catastrophic events; and finally the third book deals with the search for magically aided healing among the Waiwai and is entitled "Water, Stones, Ginger and Bones".

Stephanie also has a joint appointment in Women's Studies and has initiated research among women in Guyanese politics in order to bring to the fore issues of governance and gender in development situations. Her teaching assignments this academic year include courses on *Globalization and the Human Condition*, *Gender in Cross-cultural Perspective*, as well as *Development Anthropology* and *Women in Development* in addition to the introductory course in Cultural Anthropology. She hopes to bring a few key guest lecturers to ISU through the University Lecturers Series and to offer interdisciplinary topics such as violence, terror and the imagination as well women in development to a wide selection of the student body. After a short summer teaching schedule, Stephanie will be off to the field, taking her two sons for the first time to meet her Waiwai collaborators. While there, she will again be referred to as "Weparu" her Waiwai name meaning "hard working woman".

**Nancy Coinman** (associate professor) traveled to Jordan



in May and June to re-study lithic assemblages from a Middle-Upper Paleolithic rockshelter, which she excavated during the 1997-2000 seasons. While she was in Jordan, Nancy had the opportunity to investigate a new research area in the Jafr Basin of southeastern Jordan. Working with archaeologists from the University of California, Riverside, she explored Middle Pleistocene sites containing handaxes that date to c. 300,000,

possibly as early as 600,000, years ago. Next summer, she is planning on testing and mapping a number of more recent Upper Paleolithic sites in this area, as well as return to the rockshelter site for further excavations. A forthcoming article, "Subsistence and Technology in the Late Levantine Upper Paleolithic," documents contrasting subsistence strategies at two late Pleistocene sites in the Wadi al-Hasa and will be published in November in a special edition of the *Journal of The Israel Prehistoric Society* dedicated to Avraham Ronen (University of Haifa). Closer to home, she reports that the "ranchito" in New Mexico is taking on increasingly attractive dimensions.

**David Gradwohl** (professor emeritus) had a busy year both professionally and personally. In January he presented a paper and co-chaired a symposium at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in York, England. Then he and Hanna visited Amsterdam to do some archival and field research, continued on to Berlin and finally back to London to visit relatives. On campus, David continues to serve on graduate student committees and the American Indian Symposium Committee. The book he organized, contributed to, and co-edited (*Still Running, A Tribute to Maria Pearson, Yankton Sioux*) has just been published by the Iowa Archaeological Society and Office of the State Archaeologist. David also published several articles and a poem during the last year. This spring he was awarded the Petersen-Harlan Award for Lifetime Achievement by the State Historical Society of Iowa. Last fall's trip to southern South America was not only enjoyable but also instructive. In Patagonia David and Hanna visited some famous paleontological and Paleo-Indian sites. In Tierra del Fuego they had the opportunity to see some of the archaeological and ethnographic data pertaining to "classic" hunters and



*Continued on page 4*

Continued from page 3

gatherers described in early monographs, and the ecology described by Charles Darwin in his famous 19th century voyage through this area. They also rounded Cape Horn, climbed up to see the monument there, and lived to tell the story. In Punta Arenas and Buenos Aires, David and Hanna gathered some comparative ethnoarchaeological research data on cemeteries and mortuary behavior. In July they spent a week on Cape Cod with their three children and their spouses, and 6 grandchildren. David was the banquet speaker for the meeting of the Arkansas Archaeological Society in September, and also gave several presentations in Iowa for Iowa Archaeology Month. In November, David and Hanna's travel to Amazonia, will include a cruise on the upper Amazon River and its tributaries, a stay in a jungle lodge in Peru, and a jungle research station in Brazil. Then they will visit Bahia Salvador and Rio de Janeiro.

**Matthew Hill** (assistant professor) continued his archaeological research on the Clary Ranch in western Nebraska. This multidisciplinary project revolves around documenting and modeling human (Paleoindian) response to abrupt climate change (middle Holocene aridity). The 2005 field campaign involved limited excavations

of the O.V. Clary site, a spectacular, new Late Paleoindian (ca. 9200 B.P.) campsite discovered by an ISU field school student the previous summer. The field crew included Hill, Dave Rapson (a Paleoindian specialist from Laramie, WY), Dave May (geoarchaeologist, University of Northern Iowa), ISU graduate students Erik Otarola-Castillo and Jeremy Hall, and ISU undergraduates Valerie Mayer, Steve Mussmann, Andrew Boehm, and Scott Sinnott. Over the course of two 10-day sessions, nearly three thousand lithic, bone, and charcoal items were point-provenienced, including 2 bone beads, 1 bone needle, and 1 abrader, all of which are extremely rare finds at sites of this age. Although most of the food remains are bison, several bones belonging to a common raven and a great-horned owl were recovered adjacent a hearth. Continued analysis of the faunal remains and future excavations at the site are needed to determine if these birds were used as a food resource or for other purposes.

Research plans are currently being fine-tuned for next summer's excavations at the site. The top priority is to complete excavations of the hearth area, which is exposed in a cutbank profile and slowly eroding. Given the high density of archaeological material in this area of the site, this work will probably take up most of our time, but in the end, the information promises to shed much-needed light on Late Paleoindian hearth-centered activities and subsistence practices at a late winter/early spring camp.



With a second-year grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, **Shu-min Huang** (professor and chair) continued his fieldwork



project in Northern Thailand on the establishment of sustainable hill farming, in summers 2004 and 2005. This grant also provided funds to support a panel presentation on preliminary findings from this project by Shu-min and his collaborators: Professor Pong-In Rakariyatham (Geographer, Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Professor Mattiga Panomtarinichigul (Soil Sciences, Chiang Mai University, Thailand), Professor Yang Hui (Anthropology, Yunnan University, China), Mr. He Jianyu (Photography, Yunnan University, China), and graduate student Duan Ying (Anthropology, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China) in the Annual Meeting of the 2004 American Anthropological Association. Due to the change of the AAA meeting venues, i.e., the meeting site was moved from San Francisco to Atlanta, Georgia, and the meeting time from November 17 to December 16, Shu-min's panel was forced to move to the East Asian Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting on November 18, 2004, at University of California, Berkeley.

Two articles written by Shu-min on this Thailand project have been published. The first one, "The integration of Culture, Agriculture and the Environment in Banmain Nongbua: Chinese Diasporas in Northern Thailand," appeared in the journal *Ethnology*, No. 44: 1-11. The second article, "A Chinese Diasporic Community in Northern Thailand: Contested Political Loyalty and Shifting Ethnicity" is included in C.B. Tan ed. *China and Chinese Overseas: Transnational Networks and Homelands*, Pps. 301-333, London: Routledge Publications. With the conclusion of this project, Shu-min is also writing a comprehensive ethnography, to be published in 2006.

In anticipation of the conclusion of the Thai project, Shu-min began to prepare a new multi-disciplinary and multinational research project in Western China, on the eastern fringes of the Tibetan Plateau where the three major rivers (Salween, Mekong, and Yangzi) run parallel for about four hundred miles before they part their separate ways. This area is very similar to Northern Thailand: rugged mountains, fragmented landscape, diverse ethnic groups, general poverty, opium production and consumption, and the prevalence of HIV/AIDS. He called for joint research efforts by scholars from the U.S., Taiwan, and China in the proposal: *Zang-Yi Corridor and the Perspective of U.S.-China Research Collaborations*, and was funded by the National Science Foundation in June 2005. The coordination meeting was held at Sichuan University from August 10 through 17, 2005, with 30-40 scholars participating. A comprehensive, longitudinal research project is currently under planning that focuses on three inter-related issues: (1) the development of sustainable agriculture and its corresponding environmental changes; (2) the changing state-society relationships in this borderland region; and, (3)

# faculty activities

the grassroots movements in development plans and the roles of NGOs in civil society building.

**Hsain Ilahiane** was promoted to Associate Professor in May 2005, and he continues to investigate the impact of mobile technology on developing nations. In summer 2005 Hsain



carried out the last phase of his mobile phone project in Morocco. This final phase centers on how farmers use mobile phones to harvest price information and engage the market. He plans to write a book on the role of information and communications technologies in the economic development of Morocco. In June, Hsain met Dr. Jill Pruetz and her graduate student, Michaela Howell in Morocco and they explored the possibility of establishing an international field school in the Middle Atlas Mountains. In late July, Hsain traveled to Uganda and Kenya to take stock of the role of telecenters and mobile phone projects in rural Uganda. In Kenya, he visited the fieldwork site of his graduate student, Mary Nyasimi, who is working on the relationship between land degradation and rural livelihood systems in western Kenya. Hsain's eastern Africa trip was part of the ISU Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Program. He concluded that it was a great and rewarding African summer.

Dr. Ilahiane's ethnography on the Ziz Oasis was published in November 2004, and interested party can google it: *Ethnicities, Community Making and Agrarian Change: The Political Ecology of a Moroccan Oasis*. He has just finished the draft of his second book, *The Historical Dictionary of the Berbers*, which will come out some time next year. He also plans to take a leave of absence next year and spend it as a visiting faculty at Intel Corporation exploring the interface between mobile technology and international development. For more information on what Hsain is up to, please click away here: <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~hsain/>

This summer **Jill D.**

**Pruetz** (assistant professor) had the great opportunity to visit three different countries – each with different non-human primates! In May, she first traveled with one of her graduate students, Stacy Lindshield, to El Zota Biological Field Station in Costa Rica. This is the site where Jill offer her Biological Anthropology field schools. Stacy began her Master's research on the primates at El Zota and specifically focused on spider monkeys. She is planning on returning in December for a brief visit and then will collect more data during a second field season in the summer of 2006. Jill helped Stacy get started on



the transects that Stacy ultimately censused for primates and also the ones she sampled in order to characterized the habitat at El Zota. Stacy is to be commended for swimming through swamps in order to determine the density of primates at this site.

At the end of May Jill left for Senegal and her main field site. The chimpanzees are fairly well-habituated now, and she was able to collect almost 300 hours of data on them this summer. This project is currently being funded by the National Geographic Society, and the focus of her research involves studying the chimpanzees' ranging habits. Chimpanzees in a savanna habitat like that in Senegal have significantly larger ranges than chimps living in more forested environments, and the chimps at Jill's site appear to have a range that is quite large (at least 60 square kilometers!). Graduate students Kristina Walkup (M.A., Anthropology, 2003), Michaela Howells, and Andrea Socha went to Senegal as well. Michaela and Andrea stayed all summer to conduct their Master's thesis research. Kristina returned to ISU to work on her doctorate. She is Jill's Ph.D. student in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology interdepartmental graduate program at ISU, and she plans on investigating cognition in orangutans and other great apes at the Great Ape Trust in Des Moines. Michaela worked with humans as well as chimps in Senegal. Her research focused on the potential for disease transmission between the two.

In late June, Jill and Michaela traveled to Morocco for a brief visit to meet Dr. Hsain Ilahiane and to see a site where Barbary macaques are being provisioned by humans. Hsain initiated this visit after coming up with the idea of putting together an anthropological field school that would combine biological (specifically, primatology) with cultural anthropology. The site is in the Middle Atlas Mountains and would provide a great opportunity for ISU students. Andrea stayed in Senegal and continued her project on the nesting ecology and habitat use of the chimps while Jill was gone. Her research is the first Master's project that includes behavior of savanna chimpanzees.

Two new graduate students in biological anthropology have joined ISU this fall. They are Michelle Rodrigues and Margie Robinson. Michelle plans on conducting her Master's research in Costa Rica and will travel with Stacy to El Zota this December to check out the site and do some preliminary work. Margie plans to study social interactions between adult male and immature chimpanzees at my site in Senegal next summer. Stephanie Bogart and Michel Waller each successfully completed their Master's degrees last spring (2005), and Stephanie is now Jill's Ph.D. student in the EEB program as well. She will return to Senegal next August to continue her studies of chimpanzee ecology, specifically regarding tool use and insectivory. She spent the summer in an internship at the Southwest Primate Center in San Antonio where she designed enrichment in the form of tool use for chimpanzees there. Caisie Pitman worked on her research project this summer, and she will defend her

*Continued on page 7*

# alumni news

**Leah Holck (B.A. 2003)**

After graduating from ISU, Leah attended Monterey Institute of International Studies in California and obtained a Master's degree in TESOL. She is now an English instructor at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

**David and Kimberley Simmons (MA 1994):**

"It has indeed been a while since we last communicated. Kim and I now have three children (Asha 7, Aria 2, and Aidan 1). After completing our PhDs at MSU, Kim went to work for the Council on International Educational Exchange as a resident director in Santiago, Dominican Republic. I went on for a NSF postdoc at Harvard Medical School, working with Paul Farmer. I spent much time commuting between Cambridge and Santiago, as you can imagine! While there were some opportunities open to me at Harvard, we decided to accept positions at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

Both Kim and I were hired with joint appointments; Kim in Anthropology and Afro-American Studies; and me in Anthropology and Public Health. We love the departments and the collegial air (much like Iowa State, I imagine). It's been a great experience thus far and we look forward to it continuing."

**Steve Zolvinski (M.A. 1993):**

After completing his doctorate in Anthropology at Ohio State University in 2004, Steve was hired as an Assistant Network Coordinator in the Social Science Division of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Manila, the Philippines.



"I'm working as a post-doctoral fellow in the Social Sciences Division of the International Rice Research Institute, Los Baños, Philippines. IRRI is a scientific organization devoted to improving germplasm in order to increase rice production in Asia. It is largely responsible for the Green Revolution in the 1960s and 1970s that introduced high-yielding varieties throughout Asia, as well as generating substantial criticism for the negative social effects in rice-growing communities. However, these days, IRRI has recognized its previous shortcomings and attempts to

integrate social science and gender issues in its research programs. This shift is largely due to pressure from donor agencies that want to see an impact for the money they invest in agricultural research. Scientists are now recognizing that cultural and social factors play a role in whether farmers will adopt their technologies.

Here at IRRI, my job is largely administrative as I keep track of research in nine countries in South and Southeast Asia for a project funded by the Asian Development Bank. This project attempts to improve rice production in "unfavorable rice environments" that are affected by drought, flooding, saline soils, or problems resulting in low productivity in uplands, i.e. shifting cultivation systems. These areas have the poorest of the poor farmers who were overlooked in the Green Revolution due to the diverse complexity of their ecosystems. To get at that complexity, our scientists work in interdisciplinary teams with scientists in the host countries to that do on-farm experiments in these difficult environments.

In this job, I do a lot of traveling to our research sites to evaluate the research and its relevance to the farmers we are attempting to help. So far this job has taken me to India, Bangladesh, and Laos. Our project also has research sites in the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, and has recently added Cambodia, Nepal and Myanmar. I am finding it an invigorating experience, as I am able to visit areas that I once only knew from a textbook. It's humbling to know how much we don't know about these farming systems, and gratifying to be able to provide some social science input into the research process. The job also gives me a perspective on the overall human condition in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, having come from the fast-paced life of a developed country. In our work we visit villages without electricity and other amenities of "modern" life. Each village brings to mind the social equity issues that were often discussed in international development seminars I attended during my master's.

I got my M.A. in development anthropology from Iowa State in 1993. Later I went on for my Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at Ohio State University, graduating in March 2004. My Ph.D. dissertation investigated the agricultural transformation of a northern Thai village. My years at ISU were the pioneering days of applying indigenous knowledge to rural development. The late Mike Warren was the chief advocate of this approach, but it was also emphasized in other courses I took in the department. In the long view, I see that IRRI has institutionalized many of the concepts and practices advocated from that time. We do pay heed to farmers' indigenous practices by seeking their participation in our research. We have designed our rice breeding programs to incorporate farmers' feedback and gender issues into the scientific process. ISU then laid a solid foundation for my work here, by helping me to develop the critical skills for understanding the ramifications of planned social change in developing countries. We still have a long way to go, however, in making sure that new technologies are suitable for the conditions of the poorest farmers."

## Faculty news

*Continued on page 4*  
proposal this fall. In addition to being a Master's student in Anthropology, Caisie also holds down a full-time position at the Great Ape Trust, where she will conduct some of her thesis research. All in all it was a great summer!

**Max Viatori** (lecturer) is a broadly trained socio-cultural and linguistic anthropologist concerned with issues of identity, governance, and indigenous movements in Latin America. He initially became interested in anthropology as an undergraduate art student at the University of Missouri, Columbia. After several anthropology courses, Max became an anthropology major and received an undergraduate research grant to study Tojolab'al (a Mayan language) storytelling in Chiapas, Mexico. After completing my BA in anthropology and Latin at UMC in 1999, he went to the University of California, Davis. Max completed his MA at UCD in 2000 while he was a Humanities Institute Fellow. For his MA, Max conducted a socio-historical study of Mayan languages on the border between Mexico and Guatemala. For his PhD, Max moved his geographical research focus to Ecuador where he studied the role of language revitalization in the construction of indigenous cultural identities and political subjectivities. He conducted field research in Ecuador between 2001 and 2004, which was supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Endangered Languages Foundation, and Phi Beta Kappa. He completed his PhD dissertation, *The Language of "Authenticity": Shifting Constructions of Zápara Identity, the Politics of Indigenous Representation, and the State in Amazonian Ecuador*, in the spring of 2005. He is currently writing articles for an edited volume on indigenous sovereignty, as well as the *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* and the Canadian journal of anthropology, *Anthropologica*. Max also is enjoying his time teaching anthropology courses at ISU like "Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology", "The Peoples and Cultures of Latin America", and "Global Cultures, Consumption and Modernity", among others.

**Norma Wolff** (professor emeritus) keeps forgetting she is retired. She has an article coming out in November in the *Journal of African Economic History* entitled "Fertility Dolls on the Internet: Ghanaian Artisans in the Global Market." It is based on papers given at the American Anthropological Assn. and African Studies Assn. meetings this past year. She continues to work on the book about the Yoruba sorcerer-healer she worked with over several years in Nigeria. In her second life, Norma has become an active artist and will participate in the Lincoln Highway Artists' Studios Tour in mid-October. She will be off to Ghana and Nigeria in December for a visit.

## ISUAL

Matthew G. Hill reports that ISUAL is deeply involved in a range of projects designed to improve the condition of the collections as well as conducting cultural resources management work for various government agencies and private businesses.

## Departmental awards

**Highest Graduating Senior Award**  
Steve Mussman

**Helen Schuster Award for Outstanding Anthropology Student**  
Laura Burke

**Mike Warren African Research Award**  
Larissa Begley

**Graduate Summer Field Research Awards**  
Michaela Howells  
Stacy Lindshield  
Andrea Socha

## Recent graduates

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Fall 2004</b> | B.A.               |
| M.A.             | Kimberley Campbell |
| Zayir Jordan     | Bobbie Megonigle   |
| Alexander Piel   | Elizabeth Weekley  |

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| B.A.          | B.S.            |
| Aaron Beckman | Laura Burke     |
| Myra Hanson   | Jennifer Kledis |
| Pamela Madsen | Jolene Martinez |
| Tonya Webber  | Joyce Mbugua    |
|               | Steve Mussman   |

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| B.S.          | Eric Saboe   |
| Adam Pederson | Anna Stephan |
| Emily Zentner |              |

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Spring 2005</b> | <b>Summer 2005</b> |
| M.A.               | B.A.               |
| Stephanie Bogart   | Jennifer Riggs     |

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Michel Waller | B.S.            |
|               | Emily Bennetti  |
|               | Monica Brewster |

## Dean's List

### Spring 2005

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Tessa Berg        | Valerie Mayer     |
| Benjamin Bryden   | Lavonne McRoberts |
| Laurie Burke      | Scott Miller      |
| Deidre Calloway   | Steve Mussman     |
| Raenane Cooks     | Amy Pavlik        |
| Nina Crudup       | Rachel Peterson   |
| Jean Friestad     | Justin Sullivan   |
| Brittany Graber   | Ashley Titman     |
| Katherine Koopman |                   |

ISU Anthropology News  
Iowa State University  
Department of Anthropology  
324 Curtiss Hall  
Ames, IA 50011-1050



## Anthropology Club

The Anthropology Club had the fall picnic on September 18, in Inis Grove Park that attracted about 40 faculty and students. The volleyball contest between faculty and student was a tie, one to one. Special thanks for preparing this event: Max Viatori, Sam Pack, Stephanie Aleman, and Erik Otarola-Castillo.

The new club officers are Ashley Titman, president; Andrea Ochoa, vice president; Brittany Graber, treasurer; Valerie Mayer, secretary; and Mat Tedrow, LAS Council representative.